



# **CITY COUNCIL**

## **CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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### **LET'S START CURBSIDE RECYCLING NOW**

Yesterday, Bill 72 became law, mandating that the City initiate a comprehensive curbside recycling program.

Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu), who introduced Bill 72, stated, "While I am happy that curbside recycling is now mandated, we should get this program started now. The deadlines contained in my bill should be seen as absolute drop-dead-dates. We should shoot to start curbside recycling as soon as possible. I am looking forward to offering a budget amendment to fully fund curbside recycling this year and get the program underway by the start of 2007."

Jeff Mikulina, Executive Director of the Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, added, "It has taken the City government far too long to get curbside recycling started. There is no reason why the people of Oahu need to wait another two years before they see curbside recycling. The administration's cost estimates are exaggerated and the benefits from curbside recycling are far greater than what the mayor suggests."

Bill 72 mandates the City start a curbside recycling program by January 1, 2007, but gives the mayor until July 1, 2008, to implement the program. Honolulu is the largest municipal government in the United States without a curbside recycling program. Since Mayor Hannemann's administration stopped the curbside recycling program for Oahu last year, over 250,000 pounds of recyclable materials have been thrown away.

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